



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

ORIGINAL
(Red)



SDMS DocID

2117563

Mr. Roy L. Perry-Bey
Executive Director
Citizens of Hampton Roads
March Against Poverty Campaign, Inc.
7510 Granby St.
Ste. 207
Norfolk, Va. 23505

September 28, 1998

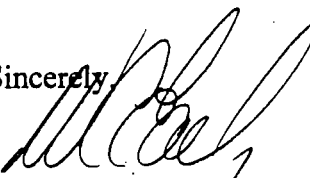
RE: City of Norfolk

Dear Mr. Perry-Bey:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, ("EPA") has been forwarded a copy of your letter, dated August 4, 1998, to United States Attorney General Janet Reno. We understand that the United States Department of Justice will be responding to your request for the appointment of an Independent Counsel. EPA was forwarded a copy of your letter because it referenced a piece of property in Norfolk, Virginia, known to EPA as the Norfolk Town Gas Site ("Site"). EPA has had no involvement with the Site since 1983. EPA's Site Assessment Section had a Preliminary Assessment Report prepared and based on the information provided in the report and the conditions of the Site at that time, the Site was qualified as No Further Remedial Action Planned.

Based on a telephone conversation with a Virginia Department of Environmental Quality ("VA DEQ") Headquarters Project Manager, the facility conducted a removal action in the summer of 1994. The action was to remove coal tar on the property. During excavation, containers of methyl mercaptan were discovered. The facility contacted Norfolk, VA DEQ and Virginia Department of Emergency Services (DES). All agencies responded to the Site. The removal was then completed and the area was backfilled. Methyl mercaptan is the chemical used to give natural gas its distinctive odor. For more information you can contact the DEQ Regional Office's Pollution Response Section at (757) 518-2000. If you would like to review the information concerning this Site contained in our files, please contact Ms. Libby Levy at 215-814-3138. If you have any questions, please contact Cecil Rodrigues from my staff at 215-814-2683.

Sincerely,



William C. Early
Acting Regional Counsel